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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/607,031	06/26/2003	Yu Ren	21148	5631
210	7590	07/11/2006	EXAMINER	
MERCK AND CO., INC P O BOX 2000 RAHWAY, NJ 07065-0907			WARD, PAUL V	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1624	
DATE MAILED: 07/11/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/607,031	Applicant(s) REN ET AL.	
	Examiner PAUL V. WARD	Art Unit 1624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 9-34 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election of Group I in the reply filed on April 18, 2006 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

Group II is withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim.

Applicant is entitled to have the method claims (Groups II), which are commensurate in scope with the elected invention, rejoined if the compounds in Group I are allowed.

Applicant reserved the right to file a divisional application to the non-elected subject matter.

An action on the merits of Groups I (claims 1-8) is contained herein.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bilodeau et al. (WO 01/17995).

Art Unit: 1624

Applicant claims salt forms of 4-[2-(5-cyano-thiazol-2-ylamino)-pyridin-4-ylmethyl]-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid methylamide as tyrosine kinase inhibitors. Additionally, Applicant claims compositions comprising said salt forms of tyrosine kinase inhibitors.

Bilodeau discloses claims salt forms of 4-[2-(5-cyano-thiazol-2-ylamino)-pyridin-4-ylmethyl]-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid methylamide as tyrosine kinase inhibitors, which share the same formulaic compounds. (See Abstract and Formula 1, pages 5-31 and 111-112). The compound in the said reference has the same structure and includes a polymorphous form of mesylate salt of 4-[2-(5-cyano-thiazol-2-ylamino)-pyridin-4-ylmethyl]-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid methylamide, and falls within the range of Applicant's compound. (See page 111-112). Additionally, on pages 31-32, Bilodeau teaches compositions comprising said salt. Since Bilodeau teaches the exact compound and composition, Applicant's claims are anticipated, and thus, rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bilodeau et al. (WO 01/17995).

Art Unit: 1624

Applicant claims salt forms of 4-[2-(5-cyano-thiazol-2-ylamino)-pyridin-4-ylmethyl]-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid methylamide as tyrosine kinase inhibitors. Additionally, Applicant claims different salts of 4-[2-(5-cyano-thiazol-2-ylamino)-pyridin-4-ylmethyl]-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid methylamide characterized by different X-ray powder diffraction patterns having different diffraction angles and melting endotherms.

Bilodeau discloses claims salt forms of 4-[2-(5-cyano-thiazol-2-ylamino)-pyridin-4-ylmethyl]-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid methylamide as tyrosine kinase inhibitors, which share the same formulaic compounds.

Bilodeau does not disclose 4-[2-(5-cyano-thiazol-2-ylamino)-pyridin-4-ylmethyl]-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid methylamide characterized by different X-ray powder diffraction patterns having different diffraction angles and melting endotherms, however, one skilled in the art would find the differences in the teaching to be negligible.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bilodeau to obtain the salt forms in the instant application. All of the moieties are taught in the art. Obviousness based on similarity of structure and functions entails motivation to make the claimed compound in expectation that compounds similar in structure will have similar properties. Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make the claimed compounds in searching for new salt forms with tyrosine kinase activity. See *In re Payne*, 203 USPQ 245 (CCPA 1979). Since Applicant's claims are prima facie obvious in view of the teachings of Bilodeau, Applicant's claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-8 of this application, conflict with the claims of Application No. 10/607,114. 37 CFR 1.78(b) provides that when two or more applications filed by the same applicant contain conflicting claims, elimination of such claims from all but one application may be required in the absence of good and sufficient reason for their retention during pendency in more than one application. Applicant is required to either cancel the conflicting claims from all but one application or maintain a clear line of demarcation between the applications. See MPEP § 822.

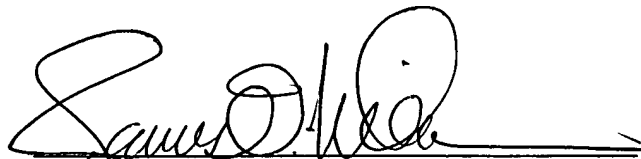
Conclusion

Claims 1-8 are pending. Claims 1-8 are rejected. No claims are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PAUL V WARD whose telephone number is 571-272-2909. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8 am to 4 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James O Wilson can be reached on 571-272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



James O. Wilson
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Technology Center 1600